Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A method of activating or enhancing a T-cell response in a patient with a tumor, comprising administering to said patient, via localized delivery, a pharmaceutical composition comprising a herpes simplex virus vector comprising an expressible nucleotide sequence for a soluble costimulatory factor in the B7 family, which factor is selected from the group consisting of B7-1-Ig and B7-2-Ig, such that (i) said factor is expressed by tumor cells or cells in the immediate area of the tumor, and (ii) said T-cell response thereby is activated or enhanced against said tumor.

Claims 2- 6 (Cancelled)

7. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said administering comprises introducing said composition directly into said tumor or a local area of said tumor.

8. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said administering comprises delivering said herpes simplex virus vector ~~nucleotide sequence~~ into the tumor.

9 (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said administering comprises injecting said herpes simplex virus vector ~~nucleotide sequence~~ conjugated to a liposome carrier into the tumor.

Claims 10 – 14 (Cancelled)

15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said factor comprises a dimer.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the monomers of said dimer are connected by a linker.

Claims 17 – 18 (Cancelled)

19. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said tumor is selected from the group consisting of astrocytoma, oligodendroglioma, meningioma, neurofibroma, glioblastoma, ependymoma, Schwannoma, neurofibrosarcoma, medulloblastoma, germ cell tumor, chordoma, pineal tumor, choroid plexus papilloma, pituitary tumor, and vascular tumor.

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said tumor cells or cells in the immediate area of the tumor are selected from the group consisting of melanoma cells, pancreatic cancer cells, prostate carcinoma cells, head and neck cancer cells, breast cancer cells, lung cancer cells, colon cancer cells, ovarian cancer cells, renal cancer cells, neuroblastomas, squamous cell carcinomas, hepatoma cells, and mesothelioma and epidermoid carcinoma cells.

21. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said administering further comprises delivering to said patient at least one expressible nucleotide sequence coding for an immune modulator.

Claim 22 (Canceled)

23. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising (A) a herpes simplex virus vector that contains a gene encoding a soluble costimulatory factor in the B7 family, which factor is selected from the group consisting of B7-1-Ig and B7-2-Ig, and (B) a pharmaceutically compatible carrier.

Claims 24 – 47 (Canceled)

48. (Previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 23, wherein said herpes simplex virus vector is a defective herpes simplex virus.

49. (Previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 23, wherein said herpes simplex virus vector is a recombinant herpes simplex virus.

Claims 50 – 54 (Cancelled)

55. (Previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 23, wherein said soluble costimulatory factor is B7-1-Ig.

Claims 56 – 57 (Cancelled)

58. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1 ~~12~~, wherein said soluble costimulatory factor is B7-1-Ig.

59. (Canceled)

60. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1 ~~12~~, wherein said soluble costimulatory factor is B7-2-Ig.

61. (Canceled)

62. (Previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 23, wherein said soluble costimulatory factor is B7-2-Ig.